

#### **Principal:**

### Mr. Michael Bonnici

principal@hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au

# **Deputy Principal:** Ms. Anne-Marie Conte

#### **Redemptorist Community:**

Fr. John Hodgson CSsR

Fr. Joseph Xuan Hieu Nguyen, CSsR

Fr. Robin Lomangkok, CSsR

(P) 9366 1310

# Mass Times:

Tuesday – Friday: 9am (English)

Saturday: 6pm (English)

7:30pm (Vietnamese)

Sunday: 8:45am, 10.00am, 6pm (English)

12pm (Vietnamese)

Prep: Samenta Ganeshanantham, Juliana

Bizjak & Thy Tran

**Grade 1**: Dion Xuereb, Jo Dragovic & Jin-Young

Grade 2: Mary James, Thilini Nanayakkara &

**Celine Goulding** Grade 3: Christine Saunders/CB, Angela

Lopez-Dee & Allana Curmi

Grade 4: Elise Ring, Beatrice Mariano,

Stefany Nemet & Zachary Gordon

**Grade 5:** Julie Murnane, Raquel McClurg,

Janelle Dumaguit & Matthew Laureano Grade 6: Kathryn Barrie, Jacelle Cablao, &

Michael Higgins/Kathleen Morrison

Education in Faith Leader: Anne-Marie Conte

**Learning & Teaching Leader**: Erin McNally

**Literacy Leader/Intervention:** Jane Hurren

<u>Literacy Intervention:</u> Karen Colman.

Maths Leader/Tutoring P-6: Erin McNally Maths Intervention: Maryanne Camilleri

**Learning Diversity/Wellbeing Leader:** 

Julie Semcesen

Family & Community Engagement/

Wellbeing Leader: Crystal Carmuciano

**Mental Health in Primary Schools Leader** (MHiPS) / School Counsellor: Edward Faraci

**Speech Pathologist:** Claire Huntington

STEM/ ICT Leader Clare Christie

Music: Colleen Azzopardi

Visual Arts: Shobha Hickey

**Physical Education:** Jake Franze

Visual Arts/Physical Education: Jocelle Cachero

**LOTE:** Joe Sirianni

EAL/New Arrival: Irene Jurista

**Library:** Jenny Bistricki

**Business Manager:** Sue Smart

Administration Staff: Mandy Huong, Stefani Richardson, Georgina Vella

**Learning Support Officers:** 

Nwares Bahnam, Nu Cuai, Menka Dave,

Br Noel Debono, Ester Dawt Thluai,

Jessica Di Pietro, Catherine Hoang, Sara Kasko, Erica (Thoa) Le, Lorna Naidu, Celia (Thoai) Nguyen, Chau

Nguyen, Trang Nguyen, Shalindi Pandithakoralage, Thi Phan, Elizabeth Sant, Rosemarie Slater,

Sung Tialzathang, Alesha Tran, Frances Wulf,

Mary Xuereb, Sarah Xuereb, Rita Zammit,

**Cleaners:** June Balatbat & Maria Attard

**School Maintenance:** Peter Buttigieg





# The First Sunday of Advent - Year A A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else? (Matthew 11:2-11) John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?" Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.' As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about

John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

# Dear Holy Eucharist Community,

Can you believe that we have reached the end of another school year? While this is an exciting time, it has also been a very busy one for all of us.

Last week was especially eventful. On Tuesday, we held Orientation Day, where our current students met their 2026 class teachers and classmates. We also welcomed our 2026 Prep students, along with the new students who will be joining us across various year levels next year. The following day, we gathered for our Family Picnic and Carols on the oval. The students performed beautifully on an outdoor stage and thoroughly enjoyed the evening. I extend a heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Colleen Azzopardi, our Music Teacher, our MCs Ms. Anne-Marie Conte and Mr Edward Faraci, and to all staff who helped prepare our students for this wonderful event.

This week, our Year 6 students celebrated their Graduation Mass and Ceremony in the church. During the ceremony, 23 scholarships were awarded. I offer my congratulations to all our Year 6 students and wish them every success as they move into secondary school.

As the year draws to a close, we also farewell several valued staff members who are beginning new chapters in their lives. We acknowledge Mr. Joe Sirianni, who is leaving us after an incredible 20 years of dedication, and Mr. Bruno Pellaschiar, who departs after 29 years of service. We also thank Mrs. Karen Colman for her five years with us, Miss Elise Ring for her four years of service, and both Ms. Jin-Young Lee and Mrs. Kathleen Morrison for their two years of contribution. In addition, we farewell class teachers Miss Beatrice Mariano and Miss Celine Goulding, as well as LSOs Mrs. Shalindi Pandithakoralage, Ms. Sung Tial Zathang and Br Noel Debono, all of whom joined us this year. We are deeply grateful for the commitment each of these staff members has shown to Catholic Education and to our community, and we wish them the very best in their future endeavours.

Our school year officially ends for students on Tuesday, 16 December 2025. Students in Prep, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 will finish at 2:25 pm, while students in Years 4, 5 and 6 will finish at 2:30 pm. Looking ahead to 2026, students in Years 1 to 6 will return to school on Wednesday, 28 January, and our new Prep students will begin on Thursday, 29 January.

Finally, I would like to wish the entire Holy Eucharist community a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy holiday. Let us hope and pray that 2026 brings joy, peace and good health to everyone. Please stay safe, and God bless.

Michael Bonnici.

Principal







#### **ORIENTATION DAY**

Last week we had Orientation Day. As I walked around the school, it was lovely to hear children and teachers getting to know each other.

Lots of preparation goes into Orientation Day and putting together class lists. The teachers collect a significant amount of data to inform their decisions and consider each student's wellbeing when preparing class lists.



I am confident that your child will benefit from the hard work staff have put in to ensure that the needs of all students are catered for. All class lists for 2026 have been finalised.

# s *minimum*

#### **CLASS TEACHERS IN 2026**

#### JUNIOR SCHOOL

#### **Grade Prep**

- -Miss Juliana Biziak
- -Mr Christopher O'Reilly
- -Ms Lorna Naidu

#### Grade 1

- -Ms Samenta Ganeshanantham
- -Mr Thomas Pham
- -Ms Rebecca Howard

#### Grade 2

- -Ms Mary James
- -Ms Thilini Nanayakkara
- -Mr Joseph Adams

#### Religious Education / ICT Leader

-Miss Clare Christie

# Learning & Teaching / Numeracy Leader

-Ms Erin McNally

#### **Literacy Leader / Intervention Teacher**

-Mrs Jane Hurren

#### **Learning Diversity/Intervention Teacher**

-Mrs Julie Semcesen

#### Family School Partnerships / Wellbeing

Leader: -Ms Crystal Carmuciano

#### Mental Health in Primary Schools Leader/Counsellor -Mr Edward Faraci

Music -Mrs Colleen Azzopardi

Visual Arts -Mrs Stefany Nemet

**Physical Education** -Mr Jake Franze

## Visual Arts/Physical Education/Support

-Ms CB

## LOTE (Italian):

- -Mrs Christine Saunders-Ms Simone Grippi
- STEM -Mrs Dianne Woodburn

#### **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

#### Grade 3

- -Ms Angela Lopez-Dee
- -Mr Dion Xuereb
- -Miss Allana Curmi

#### Grade 4

- -Mrs Jo Dragovic
- -Mr Zachary Gordon
- -Mr Tommy Lee

#### **Literacy Intervention Teachers**

- -Ms Jocelle Cochero
- -Ms Thy Tran

#### **Releiving Teacher**

-Mrs Tania Gatt

#### Refugee/English Proficiency (EAL)

-Mrs Irene Jurista [P/T]

#### **Numeracy Intervention**

-Ms Maryanne Camilleri [P/T]

#### Learning Support Officers (LSOs)

- -Ms Catherine Hoang
- -Miss Alesha Tran -Ms Chau Nguyen
- -Ms Chau Nguyen
  -Ms Frances Wulf
- -Mrs Jenny Bistricki (Library)
- -Mrs Rita Zammit
- -Mrs Mary Xuereb
- -Ms Nu Cuai
- -Ms Rosemarie Slater
- -Mrs Thi Phan
- -Mrs Trang Nguyen
- -Ms Ester Dawt Thluai
- -Ms Erica (Thao) Le
- -Ms Celia (Thoai) Nguyen
- -Mrs Jessica DiPietro
- -Mrs Elizabeth Sant
- -Mrs Sara Kasko
- -Mrs Nwares Bahnam
- -Ms Menka Dave
- -Mrs Sarah Xuereb
- -Miss Rebecca Galea

#### **SENIOR SCHOOL**

#### Grade 5

- -Miss Julie Murnane
- -Miss Janelle Dumaguit
- -Ms Jacelle Cablao
- -Mr Richard Hoult

#### Grade 6

- -Ms Kathryn Barrie
- -Mr Michael Higgins/Mrs Allison Diaco
- -Mr Matthew Laureano
- -Ms Raquel McClurg

#### Speech Pathologist (SPS)

-Ms Claire Huntigton

#### Cleaners

- -Mrs Maria Attard
- -Mr June Balatbat

#### Administration

- -Mrs Sue Smart
- -Mrs Mandy Huong
- -Ms Stefani Richardson
- -Ms Georgina Vella

#### **Priests at Holy Eucharist**

- -Fr. John Hodgson CSsR (Administrator)
- -Fr. Joseph Nguyen CSsR
- -Fr. Robin Lomangkok CSsR

#### Deputy Principal/School Improvement Leader

-Ms Anne-Marie Conte

# Principal

-Mr Michael Bonnici

# NEW LINE-UP AREAS: Before school and at the end of recess and lunch

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, our Preps and Year 1 classes have relocated to different classrooms in preparation for the refurbishment works, which are scheduled to begin early next year. With the majority of classes now situated at the back of the school, we have made some important changes to where students will be required to line up.

Effective immediately, students will no longer line up outside their classrooms before school, during recess, or at lunchtime. When the bell rings at 8:45am, students are to move directly to their designated line-up areas and wait for their teachers.

For safety reasons, no students or parents are permitted to wait outside classrooms or between buildings before school or during recess and lunch.

New Line-Up Locations:

# Prep, Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3:

Students will line up on the Basketball Court with their bags at 8:45am and whenever the bell rings at the end of recess and lunch.

• Years 4, 5, and 6:

Students will line up on the Oval with their bags at 8:45am and whenever the bell rings at the end of recess and lunch.

These changes have been introduced to support smoother transitions, improve supervision, and enhance student safety. We appreciate your cooperation and support as we implement this new procedure.

For safety reasons, students are not permitted to play ball games on the oval or the basketball court before or after school. Please feel free to see me if you have any questions or concerns.

#### **HOLY EUCHARIST SCHOOL IN 2025 AND 2026**

#### Last Day of Term 4, 2025

The last day for Term 4, 2025 (for all students) will be on Tuesday 16th December 2025.

Students in Prep,1, 2 and 3 will finish at 2:25pm and students in Years 4,5 and 6 finish at 2:30pm.

# First Day of Term 1, 2026

- Staff will return to school on Tuesday 27th January 2026.
- Students in Years 1 6 will resume on Wednesday 28th January 2026
- Students in Prep will commence school on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Next year, Preps will be at school from 8:55am to 3:10pm every day except for Wednesdays in January/February. The Preps will have no school on:

- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January,
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February,
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February,
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February,

#### Grades 1, 2 and 3

In 2026, students in Year 3 will follow the Junior Bell and Junior timetable. Therefore, students in Grades Prep, 1, 2 and 3 will commence school at 8:55am and will finish school at 3:10pm

#### Grades 4, 5 and 6

Students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 will commence school at 8:55am and will finish school at 3:15pm.

#### STAFF LEAVING AT THE END OF THE YEAR

At the end of this year the following staff will be leaving us and continuing to develop themselves in various roles:

- Mr Joe Sirriani
- Mr Bruno Pellaschiar
- Mrs Karen Colman
- · Miss Elise Ring
- · Miss Jin-Yong Lee
- Mrs Kathleen Morrison
- Ms Beatrice Mariano
- Miss Celine Goulding
- Mrs Shalindi Pandithakoralage (LSO)
- Ms Sung Tial Zathang (LSO)
- Br Noel Debono (LSO)



We thank all our staff who are leaving at the end of the year, and we wish them all the very best in their future endeavours

# **ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING – SEMESTER 2**

Today, (12<sup>th</sup> December), parents and carers will receive their child's Semester 2 report, along with work samples selected by teachers to demonstrate learning and progress throughout the term. We encourage you to review these samples together with the report to gain a comprehensive understanding of your child's achievements and areas for growth. Both the Semester 2 report and work samples will be sent home in the Assessment Envelope.



#### VIOLIN PROGRAM

At the end of this year, we farewell Celia Hopkinson, our violin teacher at Loreto Mandeville Hall. Celia has been teaching violin to our students for almost three years, and we are deeply grateful for her dedication, expertise, and the care she has shown our students.



We sincerely thank Celia for her hard work and commitment, and we wish her every success in the future. Due to space limitations during the upcoming building phase, the violin program will be placed on hold next year. We appreciate the community's understanding and look forward to reinstating the program once facilities allow.

# SCHOOL FUN DAY AND WHOLE SCHOOL THANKSGIVING MASS

We are excited to announce that Holy Eucharist School will be hosting a 'Fun Day' on the last day of school (Tuesday 16th December 2025).

Students in Prep to Year 6 will participate in a range of tabloid sports activities, led by Kaboom Kids Sport. It promises to be a day filled with fun, teamwork, and physical activities to make it a memorable experience for our students. We will be concluding the school year with a 'Thanksgiving Mass' at 12pm in the Church. All welcome.



# STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

Class teachers will select one student per week to receive the "Student of the Week" award. The names of these students (first name only) will be published in our newsletter. This week we congratulate the following students:

Prep TT	Prep SG	Prep JB	
Week 9: Linh My	Week 9: Chloe	Week 9: Duckies	
Week 10: Mahlet	Week 10: Kayden	Week 10: Ricky	h-00-0
Year 1DX	Year 1JL	Year 1JD	* *
Week 9: Louis	Week 9: Shallom	Week 9: Lucy	
Week 10: Skylar	Week 10: Skyla	Week 10: Louis	STUDENT
Year 2TN	Year 2CG	<u>Year 2MJ</u>	OF THE
Week 9: Miriam	Week 9: Joseph	Week 9: Kim	
Week 10: Timothy	Week 10: Harvey	Week 10: Tommy L	FEEL
Year 3AL	Year 3 AC	Year 3S/B	WEEK
Week 9: Peter	Week 9: Criselina	Week 9: Grace	
Week 10: Alex	Week 10: Chanel	Week 10: Lara	
Year 4ZG	Year 4SN	Year 4BM	Year 4ER
Week 9: Mercylin	Week 9: Ryan T	Week 9: Ayuein	Week 9: Seth
Week 10: Tony	Week 10: Kathy	Week 10: Seal	Week 10: Delina
Year 5RM	Year 5JM	Year 5JD	<u>Year 5ML</u>
Week 9: Elen	Week 9: Yar	Week 9: Lily	Week 9: Mason
Week 10: Felix	Week 10: Bawi	Week 10: Whole class	Week 10: Whole Class
Year 6JC	Year 6H/M	Year 6KB	
Week 9: Lina	Week 9: Mimosa	Week 9: Rebecca	
Week 10: Kade	Week 10: Rosaria	Week 10: Dhanuka	

### **GRADE 6 GRADUATION**

We congratulate all our Year 6 students and wish them all the best as they journey towards secondary school. This year, 23 students received a Scholarship Award! Well done!



#### LAST CHANCE - LOST PROPERTY ITEMS

We have accumulated a number of lost property items at the office that are not labelled with names. This includes jackets, jumpers, beanies, water bottles and lunch boxes.

We kindly remind you to ensure that your child's name is clearly labelled on all items. Often, we find articles of clothing with names that are so faded they are hard to read, making it difficult to return them to their owners.

If items such as drink bottles, lunch boxes, and other items of clothing (which are not school uniform) will be given away to charity if they are not collected by the end of the year.

# **UNIFORM GROUP (PSW UNIFORMS)**

Holy Eucharist School has a Uniform Policy. It is an expectation that all students are always wearing the correct school uniform. If students are not wearing the correct uniform, they are required to have a written letter from their parent/carer explaining why they are out of uniform.

Holy Eucharist School uniform is available for purchase at PSW Uniforms in Ravenhall. For more information please visit https://www.psw.com.au/schools/holy-eucharist-school-st-albans.html

# The Uniform Group (PSW Uniforms).

UNIT 2, 51-53 WESTWOOD DRIVE,

**RAVENHALL VIC 3023** 

(03) 9768 0342

## **IMPORTANT DATES - 2025**

12 Dec, Fri Semester 2 Reports and work samples go home

14 Dec, Sun 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

16 Dec, Tue Last Day of Term 4: P-3 finish 2:25pm, 4-6 finish 2:30pm

Kaboom Sports - Fun Morning.

17 Dec, Wed Last Day of Term 4 - Staff

17 Dec, Wed Holy Eucharist Parish - Advent Retreat 7pm - 8:15pm

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 21 Dec, Sun

24 Dec, Wed **Christmas Eve** 25 Dec, Thu **Christmas Dav** 26 Dec, Fri **Boxing Day** 



# LOST PROPERTY





# **IMPORTANT DATES - 2026**

26 Jan, Mon Australia Day

27 Jan. Tues Staff commence school

28 Jan, Wed Students in Year 1 to Year 6 commence school

30 Jan, Thurs Students in Prep 2026 commence school

Preps have no school: Wed 4th, 11th, 18th Feb 2026

4 Mar, Wed Parent/Teacher Conversations

2 April, Thurs End of Term 1 (2:30 pm finish) School holidays begin

3 April, Fri Good Friday

20 April, Mon Term 2 begins School Closure Day [1] 24 April, Fri

25 April, Sat ANZAC DAY (Falls on Saturday in 2026)

5 June, Fri School Closure Day [2]

8 June, Mon King's Birthday

26 June, Fri End of Term 2 (2:30pm finish) School holidays begin

School Closure Day (RE Zone) [3] TBC 13 July, Mon

14<sup>th</sup> July, Tues Term 3 begins

22 July, Wed Parent/Teacher Interviews

30 July, Thurs **VRQA School Compliance Review** 

11 Sep, Fri School Closure Day [4] TBC

18 Sep, Fri End of Term 3 (2:30pm finish) School holidays begin 5 Oct, Mon Term 4 begins

School Closure Day [TIL] 2 Nov, Mon

3 Nov, Tues **Melbourne Cup** 15 Dec, Tues Last Day for Students (2:30pm finish)

# **YEAR 6 GRADUATION**

Last Tuesday evening, our Year 6 students celebrated their graduation. It was a memorable and heartfelt occasion, marking the culmination of their primary school journey and the beginning of an exciting new chapter.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our dedicated teachers and staff, as well as our priests, who have poured their time, talent, and care into educating and nurturing our students throughout the year.

A special thank you to Fr Jos-Hieu and Fr. Robin for celebrating Mass with us, and to Holy Eucharist Parish for their generous contribution to the scholarships this year. My gratitude also extends to the St Albans Seniors Club for their continued generosity and support of our school community through their annual scholarship contributions.

I would also like to acknowledge Mr. Trung Luu, our State MP, for his support of the scholarships.
Additionally, a heartfelt thank you to our Federal MP, Mr. Daniel Mulino, and the Lions Club for their generosity and contributions, which have made a significant impact on our students.

Thank you all for your continued support throughout the year. I wish everyone a joyous and restful holiday season.

Warm regards,

Michael Bonnici **Principal** 



# GRADUATION.







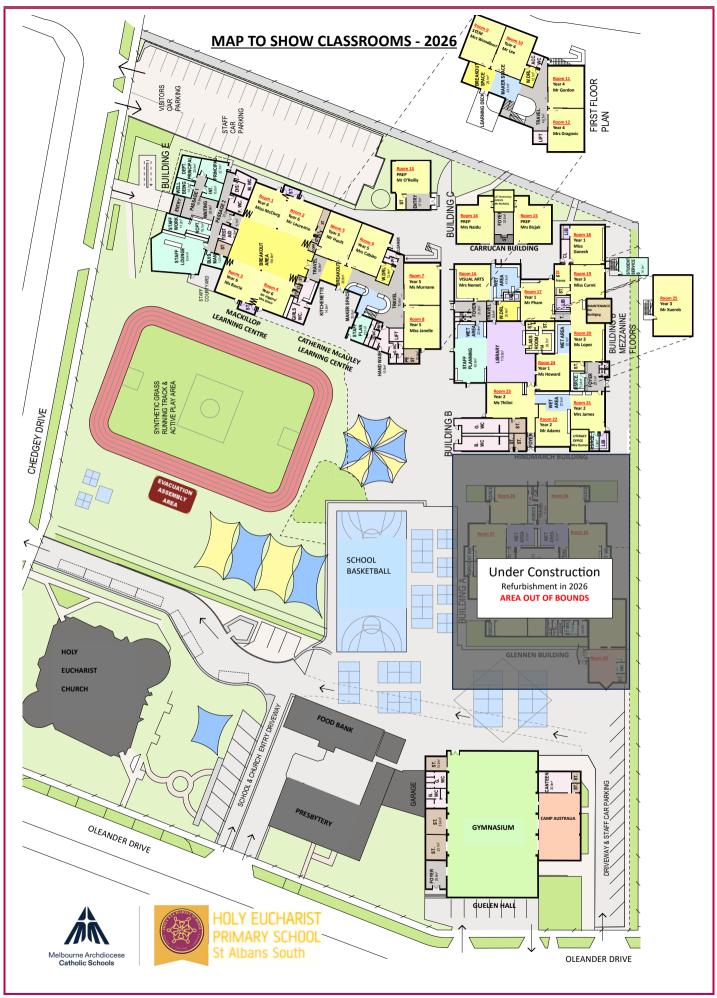
# **FAMILY PICNIC AND CAROLS NIGHT**

Last week, the Holy Eucharist School community came together as one big family to celebrate our annual Carols Night—and what a fantastic evening it was!

A very big thank you to Mrs. Colleen Azzopardi, Mrs Crystal Carmuciano, Mr June Balatbat and the Administration Team for all their hard work in organising and coordinating this wonderful event. Your efforts truly brought the spirit of Christmas alive for our school. Thank you also to our dedicated staff for helping in various ways to make the night such a success. And, of course, a huge round of applause for our amazing students! Their smiling faces and enthusiasm on stage were a joy to see and a testament to their hard work and talent.

Lastly, thank you to all our families for joining us and supporting us during this festive event. Your participation and generosity are what make events like this possible. Together, we raised \$5004. We also raised \$483 for St Vincent De Paul. What a fantastic achievement!











Thank you to A&M Cabinets, Qua Vat Ty Heo home catering, PSW, Banh Mi Viet Bakerv. Bunnings. Debonair Cakes, MPiR Tutoring and school community

families who have donated towards our Christmas Raffle. We drew the raffle at the conclusion of the Christmas Carols which was a fabulous event and it was so lovely to celebrate with all our school families. Through your generosity, we raised \$1100 which will go towards school resources.

Thank you, Mrs Crystal Carmuciano Family School Partnerships/Wellbeing Leader



# MORE INFORMATION

Principal: Mr Michael Bonnici

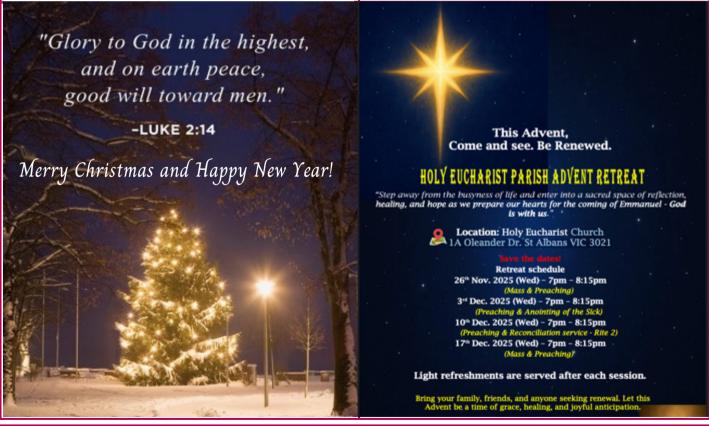
- 8312 0900
- www.hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au
- 20 Chedgey Dr, St Albans South

#### PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2026 - NOW OPEN

Enrolments are now open for Prep 2026. Children commencing Prep next year must be 5 years of age by 30th April 2026. We already have a number of applications for next year and have started interviewing

It is important that our current families also register their child/children at the office if they wish to enrol them for Grade Prep in 2026.

Tours of the school are now taking place after school. Please contact the office to make a booking.



#### SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE:

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community. The Holy Eucharist Commitment to Child Safety and Reporting Process are on display in the Administration foyer of the School and School Policies are available on the website at www.hestalbanssth.catholic.edu.au



#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

At Holy Eucharist School, we are honoured to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, the first and enduring caretakers of the land in which we work and live

